

Andrew Jackson to Andrew Jackson, Jr., August 20, 1829, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO ANDREW JACKSON, JR.

On Board the Steamboat Potomac, Chesapeake Bay, August 20, 1829.

My D'r Son, I wrote you yesterday a hasty scroll, being then pressed with business and surrounded by a crowd; being retired on board this boat I have sat down to day again to write you.

In your letter altho' you have informed me of your visit to your dear mothers tomb, still you have not informed me of its situation, and whether the weeping willows that we planted around it, are growing, or whether the flowers reared by her industrious, and beloved hands, have been set around the grave as I had requested. My D'r son inform me on this subject, you know it is the one dearest to my heart, and her memory will remain fresh there as long as life lasts.

You say, you will return to me soon, I therefore shall not write you again until I am informed by you at what time you will leave Tennessee least you might have left there before my letter would reach you.

In your letter you have not given any information of the health of my neighbours, or whether Col Ward has moved to the Western District etc. Should this reach you and you not be on the eve of setting out on your return, inform me on this subject and of the health of all my neighbours, and whether Miss Flora is still living with Col Ward, her guardian.

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I have heard that Mr J. Martin has become deranged etc. please advise me, correctly, on this unpleasant subject. Present me to Col. Love, and Dr Hogg, and both their families, and request them, both, to write me. Say to Mr. Earle it would afford me great pleasure to hear from him, I would be glad to see him at Washington. give me a distinct account of the situation of my stock, and farm; the amt. of horses, and cattle, that have died, and the amt. of cotton, and corn etc. etc. cultivated, whether any, and if any, how much timothy, Mr Steel has sowed, and how much grass he has cut, and if any, how many brick he has made. Urge him to attend to the getting out his cotton, by setting all hands to picking, the moment each hand can pick thirty pounds a day, keeping them at it, until the crop is Housed. I would like to hear how you have settled you matter with Miss F. she is a fine girl, but you being young she may try to keep you within her toils, without giving you a definitive answer. Permit this not to be the case. have a final and positive answer, and let it be as it may, close the matter finally with her. if favorable, Marry, and bring her on with you, if unfavorable, wish her happy, cherish her as a friend, but have it understood that hereafter you remain her friend without any other views. and I beg you my son, that you enter into no more love affairs, until you see me. You have many years yet for the improvement of your mind, and to make a selection of a companion. Remember my son, that you are now the only solace of my mind, and prospects of my happiness here below, and were you to make an unhappy choice, it would bring me to the grave in sorrow. *My Dear and Sincere friend Major Eaton is with me, he is worthy to be called friend* . See my friend Judge Overton and McLemore and greet them kindly for me, attend to *James* , yield him all the comfort you can. Present me to all friends and believe me affectionately yours